



## Vehicle Occupancy Studies

These studies are used to determine the number of occupants in each vehicle passing a given location or entering/exiting a particular road. They can be used in conjunction with volume studies.

### Conducting Studies

The steps in conducting a vehicle occupancy study are planning the study, recording the data and using it.

#### Planning

One uniformed MP is needed at each location.

The study should begin 60 minutes prior to the first

work shift arriving for duty and end 15 minutes after the shift has reported for duty.

Separate counts can be made for morning and evening peak traffic periods or during the nonpeak periods.

Counts of passenger cars, trucks and military vehicles should be in separate categories. Counts of buses or taxis should be obtained from transit system records.

At least 500 vehicles per location should be surveyed.

#### Recording

The field sheet and summary sheet on the following pages should be used in conducting this study.

## Uses

pool program or evaluating an ongoing car pool program. A rate of 3.0 persons per passenger car is considered excellent.

The results can be used to:

- Determine the need for encouraging a car
- Determine the need for future public transit systems, or the need for future traffic or parking facilities.

Location: **38th & Provost**  
 Date: **5 Nov 73** Time: **Start: 1000 Stop: 1200**  
 Type of Traffic: **Passenger + Light Truck** Recorder: **Smith**

Persons per vehicle	Direction of traffic	Totals	Direction of traffic	Totals
1 (Driver only)		Veh. 17 Per. 17		Veh. 11 Per. 11
2		Veh. 10 Per. 20		Veh. 7 Per. 14
3		Veh. 5 Per. 15		Veh. 5 Per. 15
4		Veh. 3 Per. 12		Veh. 3 Per. 12
5		Veh. 1 Per. 5	0	Veh. 0 Per. 0
6	0	Veh. 0 Per. 0		Veh. 0 Per. 0
7	0	Veh. 0 Per. 0		Veh. 0 Per. 0
8 or more		Veh. 0 Per. 0		Veh. 0 Per. 0
Total Vehicles: <b>36</b>		Total Vehicles: <b>26</b>		
Total Occupants: <b>70</b>		Total Occupants: <b>52</b>		
Total Persons per vehicle: <b>1.9</b>		Total persons per vehicle: <b>2.0</b>		

Field sheet for motor vehicle occupancy

Location _____		Date _____				
Time _____		Type of Traffic _____				
Persons per vehicle	Direction of traffic _____		Direction of traffic _____		All traffic	
	No. of vehs. of total	No. of Persons	No. of vehs. of total	No. of Persons	No. of vehs. of total	No. of Persons
Driver only						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8 or more						
Total -----		100%		100%		100%

  

Total vehicles _____	Total vehicles _____
Total occupants _____	Total occupants _____
Ratio--persons _____	Ratio--persons _____
Per vehicle _____	Per vehicle _____

Summary sheet for motor vehicle occupancy